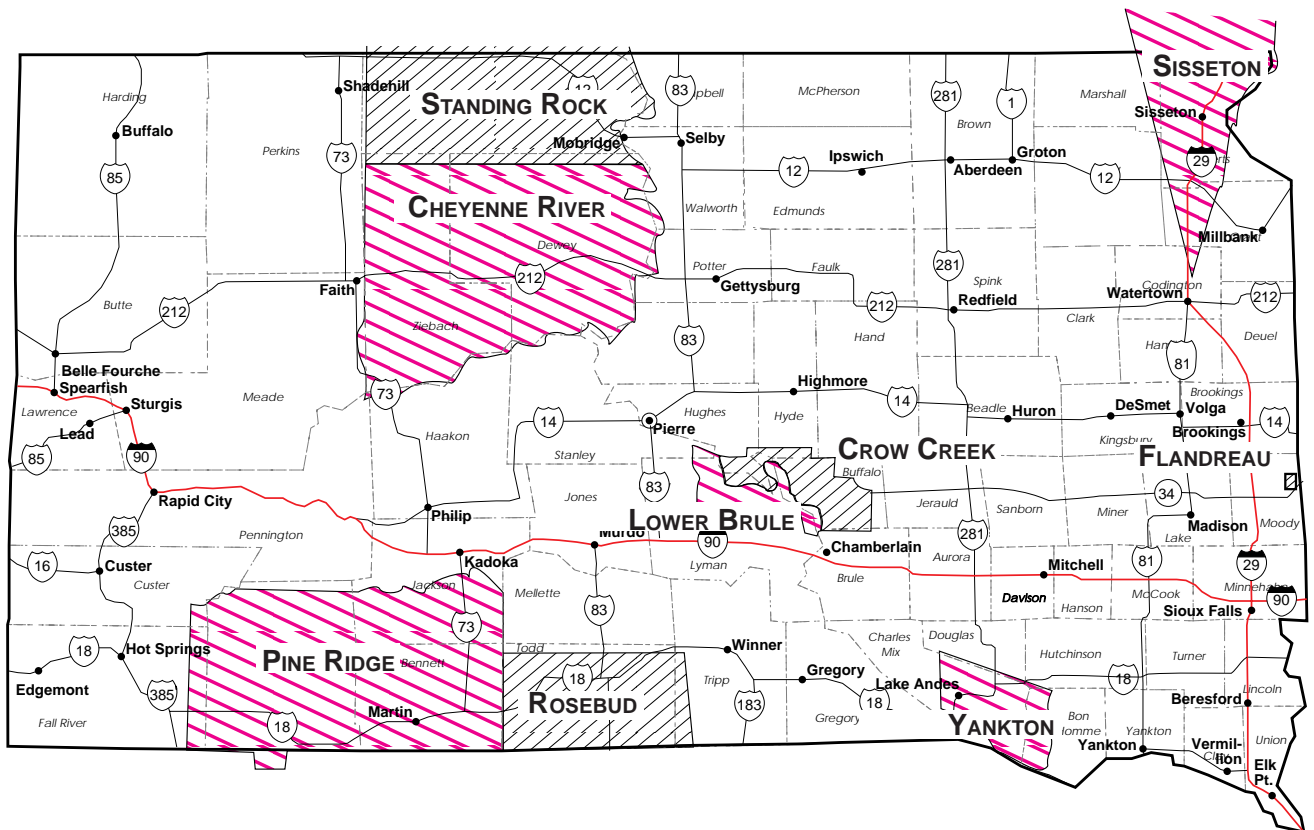


# SOUTH DAKOTA



## Cheyenne River Sioux Reservation

Federal reservation  
Cheyenne River Sioux  
Perkins, Dewey, and Zieback counties, South Dakota

Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe  
P.O. Box 590  
Eagle Butte, SD 57625  
(605) 964-4155 or 964-7275  
Fax: 964-1180

Total Area	1,419,504 acres
Federal Trust	1,419,504 acres
Tribally owned	911,467 acres
Allotted	503,483 acres
Total labor force	1,569
High school graduate or higher	60.8%
Bachelor's degree or higher	-
Per capita income	\$4,077
Population	5,092
Tribal enrollment	9,841

### LOCATION AND LAND STATUS

The Cheyenne River Sioux Reservation, comprising 1,419,504 acres, is located in north-central South Dakota. The land of the reservation is gently rolling prairie split by washes, buttes, streams and rivers. The Black Hills and the Badlands lie to the southwest of the reservation. Lake Oahe forms the reservation's eastern border.

The reservation, originally 2,700,000 acres, was established by Act of Congress in 1889. All unallocated and unsold land on the reservation was opened for homesteading to non-Indians by acts of Congress in 1909 and 1910, resulting in non-Indian ownership of 47 percent of the original reservation land. An additional 104,400 acres of reservation land were inundated by Lake Oahe. Nineteen communities dot the reservation, 13 of which are Indian communities. Tribal headquarters are located in Eagle Butte, the largest city on the reservation.

### CULTURE AND HISTORY

The Cheyenne River Sioux are part of the Lakota tribe, members of the Algonquian linguistic family. They speak the Lakota dialect of the Siouan language. The Lakotas originally inhabited the forests

and grasslands of central Minnesota where they subsisted on hunting and gathering wild rice. When the French fur traders came in the early 1600s, the Lakotas moved onto the plains. As they moved west, they acquired horses from tribes of the southern plains and guns from trade with the Santees Sioux. The Black Hills and the Badlands, known to the Lakotas for more than three thousand years, became central to their culture and religion. They bred and traded large pony herds, hunted buffalo and returned each year to celebrate the sacred Sun Dance. Trappers, settlers, gold miners and federal troops threatened the Lakotas' freedom of movement and the survival of the buffalo herds.

In 1868, the Lakotas were established on one large reservation encompassing part of North and South Dakota. Fierce and determined warriors, the Lakotas long defied Anglo-American attempts at intimidation. Finally, in 1889, after the murder of several of their leaders and having been virtually starved into submission, the Lakotas agreed to divide their land and accept six separate reservations in North and South Dakota: the Cheyenne River, Crow Creek, Lower Brule, Pine Ridge, Rosebud, and Standing Rock. The Cheyenne River reservation became the center of the Ghost Dance religion while it flourished briefly in the 1880s.

#### GOVERNMENT

The Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe is governed by a tribal council composed of a chairperson, vice-chairperson, secretary, treasurer, and fifteen council members elected from thirteen districts. The chairperson, vice-chairperson, secretary and treasurer are elected at-large for four-year terms. The council representatives are elected for two-year terms.

#### ECONOMY

The tribe owns and operates a number of businesses including the Lakota Thrifty Mart, Cheyenne River Telephone Authority, Cheyenne River Cable TV, Cheyenne River Gas Company, the tribal beef herd and the tribal bison herd.

#### AGRICULTURE AND LIVESTOCK

The Cheyenne River Sioux have a strong agricultural and livestock base. Approximately 28,000 acres of reservation land are farmed either by the tribe or by individuals. Crops include corn, spring wheat, winter wheat, barley, alfalfa hay and native hay. Approximately 915,000 acres of rangeland are in use. The tribe has a herd of about 600 head of buffalo that range on the east end of the reservation. The herd is bred under the aegis of the Planning Department. Almost half of the tribe's annual income is derived from farming and there is significant potential for expanding the use of farm and range land.

#### CONSTRUCTION

In 1992, 30 homes were built on the Cheyenne River Sioux reservation by former President Jimmy Carter's Habitat for Humanity. The project represented the first time that the Jimmy Carter Work Project built homes within a reservation. Economic development is flourishing, with construction of new buildings, including the Super 8 Motel, and plans for an industrial park and a gaming facility.

#### GAMING

A class II and III gaming facility is in the planning stages.

#### INDUSTRIAL PARK

An industrial park is in the planning stages.

#### MANUFACTURING

Manufacturing facilities are anticipated to occupy space at the pending industrial park.

#### MINING

Lignite coal is the only mineral resource being mined on the reservation. A coal-mine reclamation project is located on the northern part of the reservation. Oil is known to exist in substantial amounts, but is not being exploited.

#### SERVICES

The tribe owns and operates a number of businesses including a supermarket in Eagle Butte, a beef sales pavilion, a gas station, and two laundromats. The Super 8 Motel is under construction.

#### TOURISM AND RECREATION

Oahe Lake on the eastern and southern reservation borders is an excellent area for fishing and water sports. Areas within the reservation are available for outdoor recreational activities including fishing, hunting, hiking and horseback riding. Rodeos and pow wows are sponsored throughout the summer by various reservation communities. The Harding Motel is located in Eagle Butte. The proposed casino/destination resort will be located on the east end of the reservation and will provide a variety of recreational activities.

#### INFRASTRUCTURE

U.S. Highway 212, a major east-west highway, and State Routes 65 and 63, north-south routes, pass through the reservation. Train service is available in Eagle Butte. Pierre, South Dakota, 70 miles from the reservation, is the nearest location served by air, bus and truck lines. Local trucking companies are available and a municipal airport is located at Eagle Butte.

#### COMMUNITY SERVICES

Four of the 19 communities on the reservation have a municipal water and sewer system. The U.S. Public Health Service (USPHS) operates four more small systems. Moreau Grand Electric Cooperative supplies electricity. The tribally owned Cheyenne River Gas Company and D & R Propane supply all propane needs. The Cheyenne River Telephone Authority and Cheyenne River Cable TV provide all the telecommunication services. Four of the reservation communities have dilapidated community buildings. The tribal headquarters, a building housing various social and economic programs, and a multi-purpose community building are located in Eagle Butte.

Health care is provided by the USPHS and the Cheyenne River Health Department. USPHS services include an in/outpatient hospital, dental clinic, optometry, counseling services, and kidney dialysis. The tribal health program includes four community health clinics, contract programs for physician assistants and doctors, alcohol and drug abuse prevention services, diabetes/fitness programs, a strong heart study, the Healthy Start program and community health representatives. The USPHS holds weekly clinics at Cherry Creek. The Sacred Heart Center, providing children and women's shelter homes and counseling, is located on the reservation.

A BIA/Eagle Butte Public Schools elementary, middle, junior high and high schools are located in Eagle Butte. The Cheyenne River Community College, offering vocational and adult basic education, is located on the reservation. The Cheyenne River Head Start program also operates on the reservation. Lakeville Motor Express, Federal Express and UPS serve the reservation. The Cheyenne River Sioux Tribal Law Enforcement Department, employing 26 officers, serves the reservation. Eagle Butte has a city police and volunteer fire department. Weekly publications available include the *Eagle Butte News*, *Indian Country Today*, out of Rapid City, SD, *West River Progress*, out of Dupree, SD, and *Timber Lake Topic*. Daily publications available include the *Rapid City Journal*, *Aberdeen American News*, and *Sioux Falls Argus Leader*.

## Crow Creek Sioux Reservation

Federal reservation  
Sioux  
Buffalo, Hyde, and Hughes counties, South Dakota

Crow Creek Sioux Reservation  
P.O. Box 658  
Fort Thompson, SD 57339  
(605) 245-2221

Total Area	122,531.21 acres
Tribally owned	31,111.92 acres
Total reservation population	1,230
Enrolled members	3,521

### LAND AND LOCATION

The Crow Creek Reservation is located in south-central South Dakota on the eastern shore of the Missouri River, about 15 miles north of Interstate-90 via Highway 50 at Chamberlain.

### CULTURE AND HISTORY

Shortly after encountering white explorers about the end of the 17th century in north-central Minnesota, the Lakota (also called western Sioux) moved west in pursuit of buffalo in what is now South Dakota, Montana, Wyoming, and Nebraska. They did not actively resist white immigration until the whites began to decimate the buffalo herds. Although the Lakota originally had a woodland economy based on hunting, fishing, and gathering, they had to change radically to survive. The Lakota became classic Plains Indians, skilled horsemen and buffalo hunters, and often allied with the Cheyenne and Arapaho. Their fame was established by the Red Cloud Wars of the 1860s, which were precipitated by the encroachment of white settlers and miners and marked the only time American Indians won a war against the U.S. Government. The result was the Treaty of Fort Laramie in 1868 which placed the Lakota on the Great Sioux Reservation, with most Sioux land east of the Mississippi River ceded to the U.S. Government. The Great Sioux Reservation occupied about half of the state of South Dakota and parts of Wyoming and Nebraska. Later, this reservation was divided into several smaller parts, with the people assigned to different areas. The Crow Creek Reservation, or Wiciyela Sioux division, was one of only three parcels of land retained by the Sioux, and serves as the home to Lakota people from several areas; they speak the Nakota dialect of the Lakota language.

### GOVERNMENT

Established in 1889, the Crow Creek Reservation is governed under a constitution and bylaws originally approved in 1923. Although previously rejecting revisions under the Indian Reorganization Act, Crow Creek Sioux later accepted revisions which were approved in 1949. They now have a seven-member governing council which is popularly elected. The council chairman serves as the administrative head of the tribe.

### ECONOMY

#### AGRICULTURE AND LIVESTOCK

On all South Dakota reservations, the economic situation continues to be depressed, with unemployment rates reaching as high as 80 percent. For those Sioux not working for their tribes, there is little recourse except federal entitlement programs. The U.S. Government does provide commodities to the reservation, and children receive meals at school under the food program. Most businesses on the reservation, such as restaurants, supermarkets, and other retail stores, are owned by non-natives. A few gas stations, convenience stores, and arts and crafts stores are native-owned. The tribe owns

the Crow Creek Sioux Indian Complex which consists of a motel, cocktail lounge, restaurant, liquor store, service station, and museum. Some members find temporary work at the Allsteel Muffler Plant and in some federal and tribal employment, while off-reservation work provides marginal economic subsistence for others. Most of the reservation land is used for agriculture and grazing, with plans underway for the development of an irrigation system.

### RECREATION

Crow Creek Reservation has excellent hunting and fishing facilities. Lake Sharpe, formed by the construction of the Big Bend Dam, is a popular site for water sports. Old Fort Thompson has been developed as a historical site and also attracts tourists.

### INFRASTRUCTURE

State Highway 47 runs north-south through the reservation, while State Highway 34 runs east-west. Chamberlain, 20 miles from the reservation, has bus and truckline services. Commercial air and train services must be accessed in Pierre, SD, some 60 miles away.

### COMMUNITY FACILITIES

The Big Bend Reservoir provides water for the reservation, while the Big Bend Dam Powerhouse, which can produce 468,000 kilowatts of electricity, is the supplier of electrical power. Health care is available through private hospitals in Pierre and Chamberlain.

## Flandreau Santee Sioux Reservation

Federal reservation  
Flandreau Santee Sioux Indians  
Moody County, South Dakota

Flandreau Santee Sioux Tribe  
P. O. Box 283  
Flandreau, SD 57028  
(605) 997-3891  
Fax: 997-3878

Total area	2,356 acres
Tribally owned	2,183 acres
Total labor force	-
High school graduate or higher	-
Per capita income	-
Total reservation population	504
Tribal enrollment	544

### LOCATION AND LAND STATUS

The Flandreau Santee Sioux Reservation is in southeastern South Dakota, approximately 45 miles north of Sioux Falls near the Minnesota border. It was established by Act of Congress in 1934.

### CULTURE AND HISTORY

Between 1869 and 1873, 75 Santee Sioux Indian families gathered near Flandreau, South Dakota, took homesteads as authorized by the Sioux Treaty of 1868, and renounced their tribal membership. These "citizen Indians" had no federal aid except a school, established in 1870. In 1879 their community was designated by the government as the Flandreau Special Agency until 1891 until the

government responded to pleas from the community by creating the and appointing an overseer who administered a meager program of benefits. In 1929 the community voted to legally establish itself as the Flandreau Santee Sioux Tribe. Its constitution, under the authority of the Indian Reorganization Act, was initially adopted in 1931. It was revised to meet the requirements of the Indian Reorganization Act in 1936, approved in that year, and revised again in November 1937. The tribal charter was ratified in October 1936. The reservation was established in 1935 through an Act of Congress. Through a New Deal program, the tribe operated a garment factory that provided clothing for federal schools nationwide until it closed in 1952. In the 1960s Great Society Programs enabled the Flandreau Santees to build homes and irrigate farmland. A casino was built in 1990.

#### GOVERNMENT

The tribal charter was adopted in 1936; the reservation is governed by an executive committee with a president, vice-president, secretary-treasurer and two trustees, each serving a two-year term.

#### ECONOMY

##### AGRICULTURE AND LIVESTOCK

The tribe produces corn and beans on 1,726 acres. Cattle and buffalo graze on 844 acres of pasture.

#### CONSTRUCTION

The tribe owns a backhoe and a tree spade.

#### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

Plans were made in 1995 to expand the casino into a large entertainment center featuring top national acts. Tribal land with water, sewer and electrical options is available for the development of an industrial park.

#### GAMING

The Flandreau Santee Sioux Tribe conducts Las Vegas style gaming in its casino. The casino, opened in 1990, employs approximately 75 percent non-Indians and 25 percent Indians. In 1995 plans were made for a 17,760-square-foot entertainment center with a 500-seat theater seating an additional 250 at tables; the casino will book national name acts.

#### SERVICES

The casino features a tribal restaurant seating 150, a ten-unit motel, and a convenience store including a gift shop and a smoke shop. ATM machines are available.

#### TOURISM AND RECREATION

The annual pow wow, held in the third week of July, is a tourist attraction. A motel is available on the reservation itself; others are located in nearby Pipestone, MN and Brookings, SD.

#### INFRASTRUCTURE

The reservation is located approximately 15 miles east of Interstate 29 on South Dakota Highway 13 near the Minnesota border. An airport is located in Brookings, SD, 28 miles north on I-29, and all commercial transport facilities are available in Sioux Falls, SD, 45 miles south on I-29.

## Lake Traverse Reservation (See North Dakota)

## Lower Brule Reservation

Federal reservation

Sioux

Lyman and Stanley counties, South Dakota

Lower Brule Sioux Tribal Council

Lower Brule, SD 57548

(605) 473-5561

Fax: 473-5606

Total area 240,000 acres

Total labor force 360

High school graduate or higher 64.8%

Bachelor's degree or higher 5.8%

Unemployment rate 15.8%

Per capita income \$4,850

Population 1,095

Tribal enrollment -

#### LOCATION AND LAND STATUS

The Lower Brule Reservation spans 240,000 acres of prairie land in the center of South Dakota, with the town of Lower Brule located approximately 75 miles southeast of Pierre, the state capital. Topography ranges from steep, rough badlands near the Missouri River to rolling hills elsewhere. Big Bend Dam on the Missouri River, downstream from the town of Lower Brule, creates the 150-mile-long Lake Sharpe.

The Lower Brule Sioux Indian Reservation at one time was fairly large until various treaties and executive orders reduced it to its current size. Much of the remaining land was then removed from trust and opened for homesteading. Fifty percent of the land within the present boundaries is non-Indian owned and supports some 30 farm-ranch operations. Some of these non-Indian operators lease and own land within the tribal ownership pattern. The Lower Brule Sioux Tribe has extended to all non-Indian land owners an invitation to sell properties within the reservation boundaries. The response from these non-Indian land owners indicates their desire to purchase or trade for land located elsewhere as a part of the purchaser's agreement.

#### CULTURE AND HISTORY

The Lower Brule Sioux are descendants of the Teton band of Sioux Indians (or Lakota) that moved into the Dakotas from the region that is now Wisconsin and Minnesota. The original confederation of Lakota was made up of seven nations that spoke three mutually intelligible dialects of the language classified as Siouan. The Teton band comprised the seventh nation and spoke the Lakota dialect. Around the middle of the 18th century the Lakota migrated west into what is now the Dakotas in pursuit of buffalo. During this time the Teton band subdivided into seven tribes, one of which was the Brule. The Lakota, though often at war with other tribes, only began to actively resist the Euro-American immigration when, during the mid-1800s, settlers began arriving in numbers sufficient to devastate the buffalo herds. This unfortunate development touched off the Plains Wars, bringing the intervention of the federal government and subsequently the Fort Laramie Treaty of 1868. This treaty ended the military deadlock between the Sioux and the U.S. Government in the Dakota Territory, primarily by establishing the boundaries of the Great Sioux Nation Reservation and guaranteeing its freedom from intrusion. Those boundaries included all of western South Dakota, along with parts of present-day Wyoming, Montana, North Dakota, and Nebraska. The treaty was breached by the government's summary confiscation of 7.7 million acres of the



tribe's sacred Black Hills in 1876 after gold had been discovered there. Later that year, General George Custer and the Seventh Cavalry (who had been protecting Black Hills miners) were annihilated by a Lakota war party led by Crazy Horse and Sitting Bull. This legendary event led to a resumption of the Plains Wars and dispersal of many of the Lakota to Canada. By 1890 the Sioux (as the federal government preferred to call them) were finally been relegated to their greatly diminished reservation.

The region of the Lower Brule Reservation has traditionally supported ranching and other agricultural enterprises. The tribe itself has long engaged in such activities, though it has recently focused more heavily on tourism. Its successful casino and resort/convention center give evidence of the tribe's new direction, and appear to justify its confident outlook. In addition, the tribe is involved in a Video-Cultural Program where students, teachers and elders produce and develop Lakota Legends video programs.

#### GOVERNMENT

The Lower Brule Sioux Tribe was chartered under the Act of June 18, 1934 and its constitution ratified on July 11, 1936. Its By-laws were approved in 1960. Tribal affairs are conducted by the six-member Tribal Council whose members are elected to two-year terms. Council offices include the chairman, vice-chairman, secretary/treasurer, sergeant at arms, chaplain, and at-large member. Council members also serve as officers of the Planning Committee, whose responsibility it is to implement the OEDP.

#### AGRICULTURE AND LIVESTOCK

Though semi-arid, the reservation land supports moderate farming ventures. The tribe owns several farms which in 1989 produced over five million pounds of popcorn, two and a half million pounds of navy beans, and over 6,000 tons of potatoes. Tribally owned farms, collectively known as the Grassrope Project, consist of 4,110 acres with 37 irrigation pivots. The tribe is the third largest producer of popcorn in the nation. Historically, ranching has been the tribe's most successful enterprise, providing considerable revenues and relatively high-paying jobs for the approximately two dozen tribal members involved in the business. In 1992 the tribe purchased a 13,000-acre ranch which it currently leases out for about \$100,000 a year. The tribe plans to eventually operate this ranch itself.

#### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

The tribe has a number of projects in the works. An RV park and camping facility, located on Lake Shore Beach, is in the final stages of development. This project complements both the casino and hunting and fishing activities. Also on the lake front, the tribe plans to open a bait and tackle shop, guest cabins and a lodge, boat ramps and dock, a water slide, and water vehicle rentals. A mini-mall is planned which will include, among other things, a furniture refinishing and sales operation, a clothing/variety store, a smoke shop, a video center, and an arts and crafts store. The tribe plans to construct three to four lakeside homes to improve recruitment and retention of its medical staff. And finally, the Lower Brule plan to expand their livestock program by providing easy-term loans to tribal ranchers.

#### FISHERIES

The reservation's lakes and creeks, particularly Lake Sharpe, currently support considerable recreational fishing and at least one tribal guide business. The

tribe is also considering development of a commercial fishing and fish processing industry.

#### GAMING

The tribe operates the Golden Buffalo Casino, an enterprise which generates significant revenues and employment, serving as the anchor for the motel-resort and convention center complex.

#### GOVERNMENT AS EMPLOYER

The tribe is the largest employer on the reservation, with casino employees numbering 145 and other tribal programs employing an additional 150 people. The BIA employs over 90 people in Administration and Education; the Indian Health Service employs approximately 20.

#### MINING

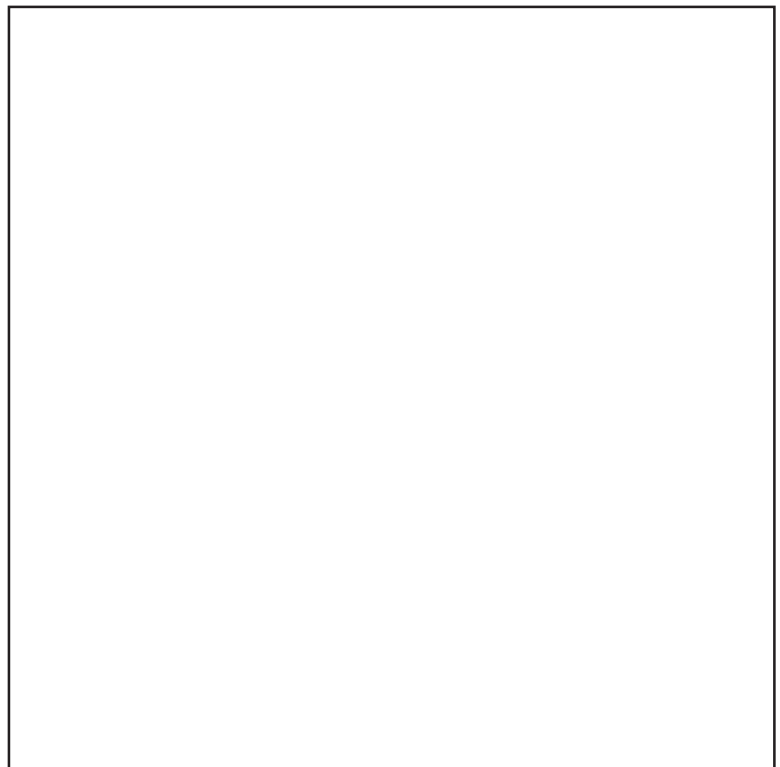
Major deposits of sand and gravel lie on the reservation.

#### SERVICES

A privately owned day care facility has been established on the reservation. Tribal members have established a guide service which leads commercial hunting and fishing expeditions. A reservation-based electronics business regularly services the casino's slot machines and tribal government computers. Other tribally affiliated businesses include a hair salon, a motel resort and convention center, the campground/RV park, a tribal bank (in partnership with Norwest Banks), and a television station (owned by a tribal member) which hosts a tribal video-cultural program.

#### TOURISM AND RECREATION

The casino's Golden Buffalo Resort Motel and Convention Center, which opened during the summer of 1993, was booked to capacity for its entire first season. Fishing, hunting, and water sports activities are extremely attractive in the region, given the number of



Badlands - Photograph by Sam Minkler/JAT

lakes and creeks that exist on the reservation—particularly Lake Sharpe, which is formed by the Big Bend Dam.

#### TRANSPORTATION

The tribe has been in the process of establishing a tribal motor pool, slated for a late 1994 opening date.

#### INFRASTRUCTURE

Commercial airline, freight, and train services are available in Pierre, SD, while the town of Chamberlain provides the nearest landing strip and bus service. Truck service is available locally, while most retail businesses on the reservation receive service from suppliers in distributor-owned trucks. State Highway 47 runs north-south through the reservation, while Interstate 90 passes east-west due south of the reservation.

#### COMMUNITY FACILITIES

Electrical power is provided to the reservation by West Central Rural Electric Cooperative. Propane gas is provided by tribally owned Lower Brule Propane. Local telephone service is furnished by Northwestern and AT&T. The Lake Sharpe Reservoir serves as the water source for the Lower Brule community and furnishes a virtually unlimited water supply. Solid waste disposal and sewage treatment are the responsibility of the Indian Health Service. The Indian Health Service also provides for tribal health care at local health facilities. Major health care problems are contracted out to hospitals in the neighboring communities of Chamberlain and Pierre. Tribal courts hear all civil and minor criminal cases, while the federal courts hear all major felony cases.

### Pine Ridge Reservation

Federal reservation  
Oglala Sioux  
Washabaugh-Jackson, Shannon, and Bennett counties, South Dakota

Oglala Sioux Tribal Office  
P.O. Box H #468  
Pine Ridge, SD 57770  
(605) 867-5821

Total area	1,771,082 acres
Tribally owned	707,246 acres
Total reservation population	20,806
Tribal Enrollment	17,775

#### LAND AND LOCATION

The Pine Ridge Reservation, located in southwestern South Dakota, lies on a diverse topography of badlands, rolling grassland hills, and acres of spotted pine. Interstate-90 runs east-west just north of the reservation. The well-known Badlands National Park extends into the reservation, while along the reservation's western border lies Buffalo Gap National Grassland. The nearest city of 250,000 or more is Denver, Colorado, 420 miles away.

#### CULTURE AND HISTORY

The term Lakota represents both the language and the people known as the western Sioux. Originally, there were seven nations of people who all spoke mutually understandable dialects of the Siouan language. About the mid-18th century, the Lakota migrated westward in pursuit of buffalo to what is now South Dakota, Montana, Wyoming, and Nebraska. By 1778 the Lakota had

discovered the Black Hills which became their spiritual center but were destined to be a focus of dispute to this day with the federal government. At this time they also divided into seven tribes called Oglala. The Red Cloud Wars of the 1860s, precipitated by encroachment of settlers and miners, represent the only time Indians successfully waged war against the U.S. Government. The resulting Treaty of Fort Laramie in 1868 placed the Lakota on the Great Sioux Reservation, occupying about half of the state of South Dakota and parts of Nebraska, while most of tribal lands west of the Mississippi River were ceded to the federal government. The Oglala were assigned to the Pine Ridge Reservation, the largest of the Lakota reservations and second in size only to the Navajo Reservation. In 1890, at Wounded Knee Creek on the Pine Ridge Reservation, troops from the U.S. Cavalry intercepted a band of Sioux and killed over 300 men, women, and children. This battle has become a symbol of oppression for all Lakota people.

The Oglala Sioux originally had a woodlands economy based on hunting, fishing, gathering, and some horticulture. During the westward movement, they acquired horses and became expert hunters, basing their economy on the buffalo, horses, and trading. Today, the Oglala revere their special history and culture and incorporate them into their local education. In terms of religion, most Christian denominations are represented on the reservation, but, the majority of people follow the traditional Native American religion under the leadership of medicine men. Many religious ceremonies take place, including the annual Sun Dance, visions quests, and memorial feasts.

#### GOVERNMENT

The Pine Ridge Reservation was established by an Act of Congress in 1889 as a home for the Oglala Lakota Sioux. Under a constitution approved in 1936, the tribe is governed by a 16-member tribal council led by an executive committee. Tribal elections are held every two years to elect the tribal president, vice-president, and representatives from nine districts. A sergeant-at-arms and critic also serve with the tribal council. A tribal court system, established under the constitution, consists of one chief and three associate judges who are chosen by the tribal council for four-year terms.

#### ECONOMY

On all of the South Dakota reservations, the economic situation is depressed. Few tribal businesses exist, and many members must seek employment off-reservation. However, the Pine Ridge Reservation has some advantages including its diversified agriculture industry, with thousands of acres devoted to crops such as winter wheat, alfalfa, millet, and safflower; and its commercial timberland, pasture land, and rangeland.

Additionally, the Oglala Nation has seen an increase in small, Indian-owned businesses, such as cafes, video stores, gas stations, convenience stores and book stores. The building of a gaming casino has been approved in the hope of bringing more jobs and money to the reservation. There are more than 75 BIA, Indian Health Services, and other federally run programs on the reservation which provide not only services but employment opportunities as well. The Oglala Lakota College, a tribally controlled institution, contributes to the tribe economically, as well as educationally. The Oglala Sioux Tribe has a comprehensive economic development plan which has resulted in the operation of a meat processing plant, a shopping center expansion, and improvement to the Pine Ridge Airport, with many other possible projects. Other tribally owned business include the Cedar Pass Lodge in the Badlands National Park, three bingo operations, along with the planned gaming casino and other enterprises that greatly improve the economic outlook for the Pine Ridge Reservation.

## TOURISM AND RECREATION

The White Clay Reservoir and Oglala Reservoir provide excellent hunting and fishing, as well as boating facilities. Of great interest are the Badlands National Park and Wounded Knee Battlefield, while nearby attractions include the Black Hills, Mount Rushmore National Monument, and Dinosaur Park in Rapid City, SD. Each August, the Sun Dance and the Oglala Nation Pow Wow are held at Pine Ridge, attracting thousands of tourists, as well as the Lakota Vietnam Pow wow and the Red Cloud Art Show held each year. The tribe has produced a brochure that provides bits of Oglala history and ecology and some hints on culturally appropriate behavior in Indian country.

## INFRASTRUCTURE

State Highway 73, a north-south route, and U.S. Highway 18, an east-west route, are the major traffic arteries. Gordon, Nebraska, 45 miles away, is the nearest railroad shipping center, while the nearest international airport is at Rapid City, SD, 130 miles from the reservation. Cattle and grain markets are also at Gordon, NE or at Martin, SD both 45 miles distant.

## COMMUNITY FACILITIES

Electricity is provided by the Consumers Power Company and the LaCreek Power Cooperative. The Oglala Sioux Rural Water Supply System supplies water on the reservation. A U.S. Public Health Service operates a hospital and recently added improvements, such as an intensive care unit, modern monitoring equipment, a respiratory therapy program, and new pediatric care facilities. Decorated with tribal themes, the hospital welcomes traditional healers and medicine men along with Christian or other spiritual workers. In 1994, the Pine Ridge Reservation Comprehensive Health Care Facility, an Indian Health Service hospital, was dedicated.

More than a dozen private or public schools on the reservation serve Oglala children ages 5 through 18. Healthy Start and Head Start programs work with preschool children. The Oglala Lakota College, chartered in 1971, is a tribally run college on the reservation which offers associate degrees as well as bachelor's and, more recently, master's degrees. The reservation also has a radio station, KILI, which will soon join the American Indian Radio on satellite networks. *Indian Country Today* is a Pine Ridge Reservation newspaper; its founder, Tim Giago, is a syndicated columnist in many national newspapers in the country.

## Rosebud Reservation

Federal reservation

Sioux Indians

Mellette, Todd, Tripp and Lyman counties, South Dakota

Rosebud Sioux Tribe

P. O. Box 430

Rosebud, SD 57570

(605) 747-2381

Total area 954, 571.76 acres

Federal trust 954, 571.76 acres

Tribally owned 409,321 acres

Total labor force -

High school graduate or higher -

Per capita income -

Total reservation population 12,783

Tribal enrollment 15,438

## LOCATION AND LAND STATUS

The Rosebud Reservation encompasses over 950,000 acres in south central South Dakota just above the Nebraska state line. Established by an Act of Congress on March 2, 1889, the reservation encompasses the towns of Mission, Rosebud, Parmelee, St. Francis, Okreek and Hidden Timber.

## CULTURE AND HISTORY

The Rosebud Sioux are descendants of the Sicangu ("burned thighs") tribe of the Titunwan ("prairie dweller") Lakota people. In the late 1880s, after the Plains Wars, subsequent treaties, and many ensuing conflicts, the Sioux were relegated to reservations. The Rosebud Reservation was established by Act of Congress in 1889. The Rosebud Sioux were brought under the Indian Reorganization Act of 1934 and operate under a constitution and by laws approved in 1935. Generations of Rosebud Sioux children were educated at the St. Francis Mission, founded by Jesuits and Franciscan nuns in 1886. The reservation is the home of Sinte Gleska College, founded in 1971, a fully accredited Indian institution of higher learning conferring associate's and bachelor's degrees.

## GOVERNMENT

The tribal charter, approved in 1937, designates a tribal council with a president and executive committee.

## ECONOMY

Many Rosebud Sioux are engaged in tribal enterprises, including ranching and electronics. Manufacturing includes gold and silver jewelry. A casino, opened in 1995, was expected to alter the tribal economy significantly.

## SERVICES

A motel is available in Mission.

## TOURISM AND RECREATION

The annual Rosebud Fair in the town of Rosebud includes a pow wow featuring song and dance, a rodeo, softball, a parade and pageant, and other events, and is held on the fourth weekend of August. A museum in St. Francis has Lakota artifacts on exhibit. A casino was opened in 1995, and there is a motel, a nine-hole golf course and many campsites and picnic areas.

## INFRASTRUCTURE

Rosebud Reservation is in southern South Dakota on the Nebraska border. South Dakota Highways 18 (east-west) and 83 (north-south) traverse the reservation, intersecting at the town of Mission.

## Standing Rock Reservation

Federal reservation  
Yanktonai, Hunkpapa, and Blackfoot Sioux  
Sioux County, North Dakota; Corson, Dewey, and Ziebach  
counties, South Dakota

Standing Rock Sioux Tribal Council  
Fort Yates, ND 58538  
(701) 854-7201  
Fax: 854-7299

Total area	847,799.07 acres
Tribally owned	294,840.41 acres
Allotted	542,700.66 acres
Other	10,258 acres

Total labor force	1,373
High school graduate or higher	61.8%
Bachelor's degree or higher	4.8%
Unemployment rate	33.1%
Per capita income	\$3,421
Population	7,956

### LOCATION AND LAND STATUS

The Standing Rock Reservation straddles the border between North and South Dakota about 40 miles south of Bismarck, ND. The land is classic prairie, dotted with buttes above 2,000 feet in elevation, and is bordered on the east by Lake Oahe, a vast widening in the Missouri River. The reservation was established in 1889 in the wake of the Great Plains Wars, and at that time encompassed approximately 2.7 million acres.

### CULTURE AND HISTORY

The Standing Rock Sioux are descendants of the Teton band of Sioux Indians (Lakota) that moved into the Dakotas from the region just west of the Great Lakes. The original confederation of Lakota was made up of seven nations that spoke three mutually intelligible dialects of the Siouan language. The Teton band comprised the seventh nation and spoke the Lakota dialect. Around the middle of the 18th century the Lakota migrated west into what is now the Dakotas in pursuit of buffalo. While the Lakota were often at war with other tribes, they only began to actively resist immigration when settlers began arriving in sufficient numbers to devastate the buffalo herds (during the mid 1800s). This seemingly inevitable development touched off the Plains Wars, bringing the intervention of the federal government and subsequently the Fort Laramie Treaty of 1868. This treaty ended the military deadlock between the Sioux and the U.S. Government in the Dakota Territory, primarily by establishing the boundaries of the Great Sioux Nation Reservation and guaranteeing its freedom from intrusion. Those boundaries included all of western South Dakota along with parts of present-day Wyoming, Montana, North Dakota, and Nebraska. Unfortunately for the Lakota, the federal government soon failed to live up to its end of the bargain. In a breach of the treaty, the government summarily confiscated 7.7 million acres of the tribe's sacred Black Hills in 1876 after gold was discovered there. Later that year, General George Custer and the Seventh Cavalry (who had been protecting Black Hills miners) were annihilated by a Lakota war party led by Crazy Horse and Sitting Bull (whose tribe, the Hunkpapas, represents a significant portion of the Standing Rock Reservation population). This legendary event led to a resumption of the Plains Wars and dispersal of many of the Lakota to Canada. By 1890 the Sioux (as the federal government preferred to call the tribe) had finally been relegated to their now greatly diminished reservation.

The Standing Rock Reservation itself shrank from about 2.7 million acres in 1889 to around one million acres today. Residents of the reservation accepted Indian New Deal rehabilitation, but have long resisted compliance with the IRA; while this resistance symbolizes the tribe's cultural integrity, it has resulted in a denial of full-fledged federal funding. Encouraging developments in recent times include the tribally affiliated Standing Rock Community College with a curriculum geared toward the study and revitalization of the tribe's traditional cultural practices.

### GOVERNMENT

The tribe operates under a constitution approved on April 24, 1959. The reservation is divided into a number of districts which are represented by a popularly-elected 15-member Tribal Council. The council is headed by a tribal chairman who serves as the administrative head of the tribe.

### ECONOMY

#### AGRICULTURE AND LIVESTOCK

Traditionally the bulk of the tribe's income has come from ranching and the leasing of grazing permits to private cattle interests.

### GAMING

The tribe's Prairie Knights Casino attracts customers from nearby cities and is working with tour bus companies in the United States and Canada. The North Dakota ski resort, Huff Hills, is also located close to the casino, insuring good winter business. The 42,000-square-foot casino offers 399 slot machines, blackjack, and high-stakes poker tables. A full-service bar and entertainment shows are featured. There are currently 376 employees, many of them members of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe. In addition, the tribe is planning to expand the gaming facility by adding a 70-room lodge, which will include a banquet facility, restaurant, pool, gift shop, and conference center.

### MANUFACTURING

Prior to 1970 the tribe had begun to attract industrial manufacturers to the reservation, including Five Star Cheese, Plastic Molders, Inc., and Chief Manufacturing. These businesses have made a significant contribution to the tribal economy. The tribe has been making a particular effort to develop manufacturing operations pertaining to the defense industry.

### TOURISM AND RECREATION

Boating, fishing, and waterfowl hunting are quite popular on or near Lake Oahe. Tribal celebrations include the annual Sioux Indian Fair and the Fourth of July Rodeo. Other attractions include the grave of Sitting Bull and the site of old Fort Manuel.

### INFRASTRUCTURE

State Highways 65 and 63 run north-south through the reservation, while U.S. Highway 12 runs through in an east-west direction. U.S. Highway 83 is a major north-south route just to the east of reservation boundaries. Train, bus, and trucklines directly service Fort Yates on the reservation. Commercial air service is available in Bismarck, ND, 40 miles to the north.

### COMMUNITY FACILITIES

The Montana-Dakota Utilities Company, along with the Mor-Gran-Sou Cooperative, supply electricity and natural gas to the reservation. Water service comes predominantly from wells. There is a U.S. Public Health Service Hospital in Fort Yates, with other hospitals and clinics in Bismarck. The reservation is also home to the Standing Rock Community College. The tribe's domestic violence shelter opened in 1994 and serves both reservation residents and women and children from the surrounding community.



## Yankton Reservation

Federal reservation

Sioux

Charles Mix County, South Dakota

Yankton Sioux Tribal Business and Claims Committee

P.O. Box 248

Marty, SD 57361

(605) 384-3804

Fax: 384-5687

Total area	434,932.23 acres
Tribally owned	17,000 acres
Allotted	23,000 acres
Other	394,932 acres

Total labor force	499
High school graduate or higher	55.5%
Bachelor's degree or higher	4.1%
Unemployment rate	30.1%
Per capita income	\$2,834
Population	6,281

### LOCATION AND LAND STATUS

The Yankton Reservation encompasses approximately 435,000 acres of land near Fort Randall, about 35 miles west of Yankton, South Dakota, and along the Missouri River which serves as the border between South Dakota and Nebraska. The land here is primarily high prairie.

The reservation was established by treaty in 1858, encompassing the traditional homeland of the Yankton Sioux. Under the Allotment Act of 1887, tribal members were allotted 40, 80, and 160-acre tracts of land with the remainder of the reservation was opened up to homesteaders. Hence, out of the 435,000 acres comprising the reservation, only about 40,000 acres remain under tribal ownership.

### CULTURE AND HISTORY

The Yankton, Yanktonai, and Assiniboiné Indians descend from a single "council fire" of "Nakota" Indians, who claimed land within traditional Sioux territory at the time of the white settlers' first arrival. Like other tribes, the Yanktons ceded the vast majority of their ancestral territory to the U.S. Government — 2.2 million acres in 1830 and over 11 million additional acres in 1858. In return, they retained 430,000 acres on the site they continue to occupy today (though with greatly diminished holdings). The Yanktons also claimed the 648-acre Pipestone Reservation until 1929, whereupon they sold it for about \$330,000 and assurances of continued Indian access. Unlike other bands of Sioux, the Yanktons never took up arms against the United States and generally lived in peace with neighboring tribes. The official constitutional government adopted by the tribe in 1891 was succeeded (under some duress) by another one in 1932. The Yanktons never formally accepted the terms of the Indian Reorganization Act. During the New Deal era the tribe received benefits from the federal government, but otherwise they have traditionally been slighted due to what the government and the BIA have taken to be the tribe's overt cultural resistance. For the Yanktons, "resistance" has simply meant that the tribe has succeeded over the years in preserving its cultural traditions. Most agree this has been due to extraordinary leadership. Leaders such as the internationally recognized activist, writer, and educator, Vine Deloria, have served as bridges between the native and dominant cultures, promoting an amalgamation of tribal and non-Indian ways. In this manner the Sacred Pipe and such traditional spiritual

practices as the Peyote Ceremony have continued to thrive, even coming into open use.

Given the relative neglect the Yanktons have endured from the federal government, tribal leaders have searched relentlessly for revenue- and employment-producing enterprises to establish on the reservation. A tribal farm and a pork processing plant have had only marginal success. In 1991 a modest bingo hall was transformed into the Ft. Randall Casino, altering the tribe's economic picture almost overnight. The 75 percent unemployment rate dropped to near zero and in a mere eight months the casino produced a \$3 million profit. Such success brought about a dramatic leap in population as well. Gaming aside, the region's economy has long been primarily agricultural. Tribal members are currently involved in the cultivation of various crops including winter wheat, soybeans, and other grains. Cattle grazing also comprises a significant segment of the area's economy.

### GOVERNMENT

The tribe is non-chartered and non-IRA organized. The constitution and bylaws were adopted in 1932. In 1961 a nine-member constitutional committee was elected by the general membership to revise the constitution. The amended constitution and bylaws were adopted in 1962. The Yankton Sioux Tribal Business and Claims Committee serves as the governing body. The chairman, vice-chairman, secretary, treasurer, and other committee members are elected at large for two-year terms.

### ECONOMY

#### AGRICULTURE AND LIVESTOCK

While a large portion of the reservation land is farmed by private individuals, no individual tribal members are currently engaged in farming. There is, however, a tribal farm which grows corn, winter wheat, soybeans, and maintains pasture land for cattle grazing. The tribe clearly has the land capacity to triple and even quadruple many of its farming operations. Currently the cattle operation is working with a new blood line of stock cattle known for its higher yields. In general, agriculture has emerged as an area with some of the greatest potential for the tribe.

### CONSTRUCTION

With the expansion of the hotel/casino came the opportunity for increased construction employment among tribal members. Additionally, the reservation serves as home to various construction-related businesses such as building contractors, electrical contractors, and a large building supply business which employs over 30 workers, most of them tribal members.

### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

The tribe has a number of projects currently under development. They hope to develop a marina on the Missouri River, the presence of the Ft. Randall Dam making this highly feasible. They have a travel plaza, and a visitor's center in the proposal stage. The tribe currently operates a government commodity program which employs five to ten members. Expansion of the program is slated for the near future. And finally, the establishment of an office product warehouse is under consideration.

### FISHERIES

The area's fisheries are jointly managed by the federal and state Game, Fish, and Parks Service and the tribal Game, Fish, and Parks Service.

### GAMING

The Ft. Randall Hotel and Casino is the centerpiece of the tribe's economy as well as its most dramatic success story. It currently

employs over 600 workers and was responsible in its first year of operation for shrinking the tribe's 75 percent unemployment rate to near zero. It generates millions of dollars annually in tribal revenues.

#### GOVERNMENT AS EMPLOYER

The tribal government employs 65 tribal members in its administrative and operation functions. The newly opened (fall 1994) Yankton Sioux College Center also generates employment for the tribe. The hotel/casino and tribal farm, as enterprises managed by the tribal government, represent indirect government employment.

#### INDUSTRIAL PARKS

The Tribal Industrial Park, which formerly housed a pork-processing plant and a boot and moccasin factory, is now slated to house the new College Center and/or the commodity program.

#### SERVICES

Wholesale and retail services on the reservation include restaurants, laundromats, hardware stores, farm and building supplies stores, along with the hotel/casino and other enterprises.

#### TOURISM AND RECREATION

The reservation is surprisingly rich in its recreational options. The Ft. Randall Dam serves as a site for swimming and boating, and has 19th century burial grounds and archeological sites nearby. The Yankton Sioux pow wows and the Marty Indian School draw

tourists interested in traditional native culture. Lake Francis also serves as a site for water recreation, as well as sport fishing and pheasant hunting. Moreover, the reservation maintains numerous park, camping, and dock facilities. The Ft. Randall Hotel and Casino also attracts many visitors.

#### TRANSPORTATION

At least one commercial trucking company is located within reservation boundaries.

#### INFRASTRUCTURE

Highways 46, 50, 281, and 18 all provide direct access and service to the reservation. Commercial air service is available in the town of Wagner, on the reservation. Commercial chartered bus and limousine companies serve the reservation and surrounding area, as does UPS. As the reservation lies directly adjacent to the Missouri River, water transportation services are possible.

#### COMMUNITY FACILITIES

The reservation is provided with electricity by Charles Mix Electric Association, Inc. Gas is provided by Northwestern Public Service Company. The water system is maintained by the Randall Community Water District, while the sewage system consists of community septic tanks and lagoons. The reservation is served by several health care facilities, including the Wagner Community Hospital, two community clinics, and the U.S. Public Health Service. Educational facilities include local public schools and the Marty Indian School.

